

Notes on *Parornix szoecsi* GOZMANY (*Gracillariidae*) and allied species, with description of *P. incerta* n. sp.

Paolo TRIBERTI

C/o Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, L.ge Porta Vittoria 9, 37129 Verona, Italy.

This paper is an attempt to clear up the confusion existing among some species belonging to the genus *Parornix* SPULER : *P. szoecsi* GOZMANY, *P. amygdalella* KUZNETZOV, *P. turcmeniella* KUZNETZOV, *P. atripalpella* WAHLSTRÖM. Such confusion has been mainly due to the similarities in the genitalia of the males, which can be characterized as follows : *aedoeagus* long and fine, flexible, forked apically, whose base joined, through a short sclerotized piece, with a ventral lobate projection of the sacculus (fig. 4) ; *valvae* with a tooth on ventral margin. The so far known females have a *corpus bursae* with two *signa* in the shape of bands, formed by small plates.

In the course of the present study I have found other species which are closely related to the mentioned group : *P. ermolaevi* KUZNETZOV, *P. maliphaga* KUZ., *P. fumidella* KUZ. However they may be readily distinguished from it because the *aedoeagus* has not the sclerotized piece in the articulation with the *sacculus*, but a real penial apophysis (fig. 10). In addition I have found a new species from Southern Spain, which shows a close affinity to *atripalpella* WAHL. and which is described in this paper.

Parornix szoecsi GOZMANY

The species was described by GOZMANY in 1952, on the basis of a female collected in the surroundings of Budapest. An insufficient description of the genitalia has prevented a correct identification of the species up to now. In 1980 GOZMANY sent me some specimens (both sexes) belonging to a species that he thought to be *P. szoecsi*. The slide of the type was not well interpretable and therefore, to solve the problem, I decided to prepare it again. Although the *corpus bursae* was missing, I came to the conclusion that the above-mentioned specimens belong to the species under examination. A description of the female genitalia can now be given (fig. 12) : Antapophysis about as long as postapophysis, both rather short. *Laminae antevaginalis* and *postvaginalis* well-defined, each of them

is divided in two. *Ductus bursae* membranous the whole length, *cervix bursae* strongly scobinate. *Corpus bursae* with two signa in the shape of arcuated bands, formed by small plates.

Studying the male genitalia, a synonymy has been ascertained : *P. amygdalella* Kuz. 1978 n. syn. of *P. szoecsi* GOZMANY 1952. KUZNETZOV described his species only on the grounds of the male genitalia, not having collected any female ; so he could not compare the species with the female type of *szoecsi*.

Distribution. Besides the localities mentioned by GOZMANY and KUZNETZOV (Budapest, South of Ural and West Kazakstan), studying Dr. Kasy's material, I have found a male coming from the Bisamberggebiet (Vienna).

Biology. Gozmany bred his specimens from *Prunus fruticosa* P. and *P. tenella* B. (= *Amygdalus nanus* L.). The latter is pointed out by KUZNETZOV as the host plant of *amygdalella* and thus confirms further the synonymy. The species is most likely bivoltine, the adults appearing in June and August.

Parornix turcmeniella KUZNETZOV

This species, very closely related to *szoecsi* Goz., was described by KUZNETZOV in 1956 and then described again due to a mistake in the drawing of the *aedoeagus*. An examination of the literature shows that the differences between the two species are slight. KUZNETZOV himself (1978) supposed *amygdalella* may be only a subspecies of *turcmeniella*. On the other hand, the very limited variability of the genitalia within this group suggests the possibility that *turcmeniella* is a good species, waiting for new data to clear up the problem.

Distribution. Kopet-Dagh (Turkmenistan).

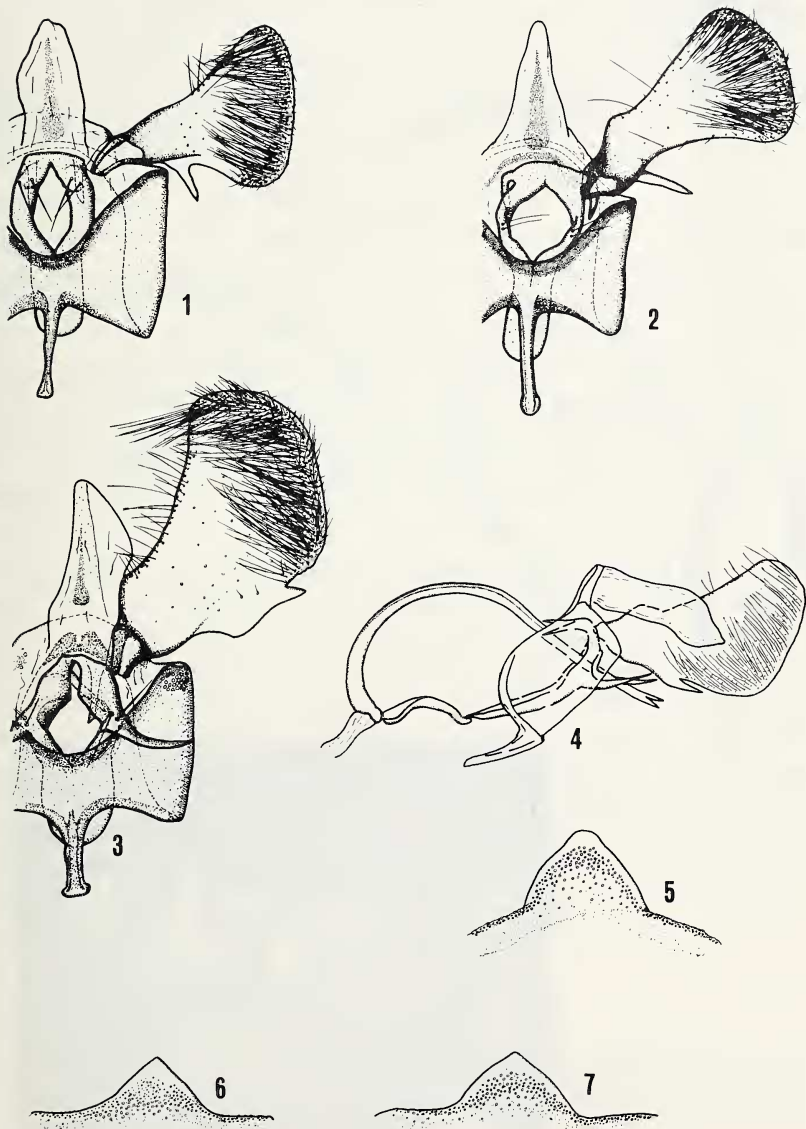
Biology. Unknown.

Parornix atripalpella WAHLSTRÖM

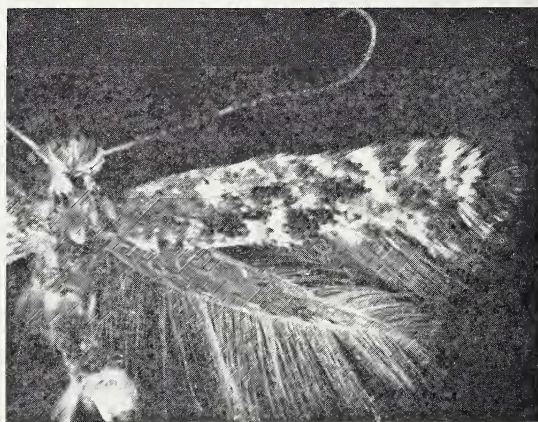
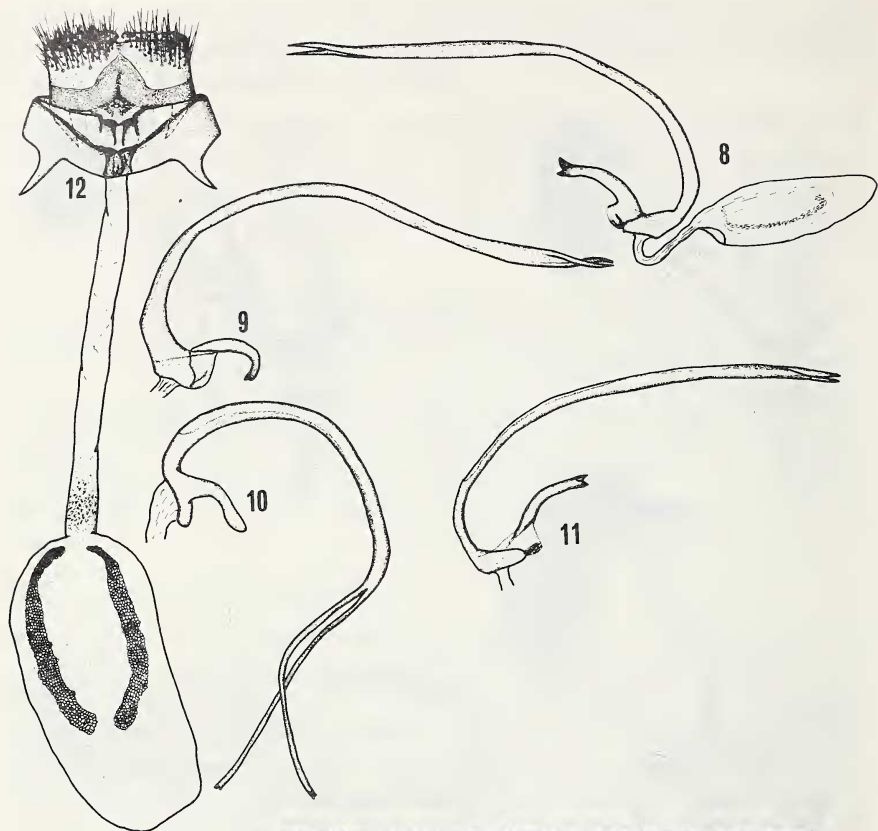
It was described in 1979 on the grounds of a male and a female collected along the south-east coast of Sweden. The genitalia of the males may be distinguished from the two above-mentioned species for the lack of the horn-shaped projections on the *sacculus*.

Distribution. In addition to the locality already mentioned, I have taken the species in Italy, in the surroundings of Bolzano and in Sardinia. In addition, studying the material of the HARTIG collection, deposited in the Entomological Institute of Rome University, I have found a specimen labelled : Deutschland, Mai '14, Eichhorn.

Biology. Unknown.



Figs. 1-4. ♂ genitalia. 1, *Parornix atripalpella* Wahl. 2, *P. incerta* n. sp. 3, *P. szoecsi* Goz. 4, *P. turcmeniella* Kuz. (after Kuznetsov 1978).
Figs. 5-7. Eighth sternite. 5, *P. szoecsi* Goz. 6, *P. atripalpella* Wahl. 7, *P. incerta* n. sp.



Figs. 8-11. Aedoeagi. 8, *Parornix atripalpella* Wahl. 9, *P. szoecsi* Goz. 10, *P. ermolaevi* Kuz. (after Kuznetsov 1979). 11, *P. incerta* n. sp.
 Fig. 12. ♀ genitalia. *P. szoecsi* Goz.
 Fig. 13. Imago. *P. incerta* n. sp.

Parornix incerta n. sp.

Holotypus (♂) : Hispania, Sierra Nevada, Carr. Veleta, 2000 m, 8.7.1971, leg. KLIMESCH (prep. Trb 1154 ♂), in coll. KLIMESCH.

Paratypi : 1 ♂, as above (prep. Trb 1103 ♂) in coll. TRIBERTI ; 1 ♂, Hispania mer., Prov. Granada, Sierra Nevada, 2300 m, Road to Veleta, 25.7.1979, K. SATTLER & D. J. CARTER, BM 1970-26, in coll. British Museum.

Description of the adult. Crown and face whitish, with numerous brown scales posteriorly to the scape. Labial and maxillary palpi white, the latter about 1/3 as long as the former. Apical segment of labial palpi is annulated with brown. *Antennae* ochreous-white, the individual segments annulated with brown ; scape and pedicel are slightly spotted with white. *Tegulae* and *thorax* whitish, irregularly spotted with brown ; *coxae* and *femora* of fore and middle legs dark brown, marked with white blotches ; on the hind legs they are grey-whitish, each segment with a brown apical ring. Fore wing grey-brownish, with whitish *strigulae*, typical of the genus *Parornix* Sp. Hind wing and cilia white-greyish. Expanse of fore wings 7-9 mm.

Male genitalia. *Tegumen* short, *tuba analis* membranous, moderate in length. *Valvae* symmetric, narrowed on basal 1/3 and then widened towards *cucullus* ; *costa* strongly angulated at basal 1/4 ; ventrally, at basal 1/4, a tooth is present, about as long as *saccus*. *Sacculus* lacking the horn-shaped projection. *Aedoeagus* long and fine, rather flexible, forked apically ; along almost the whole length to the apex, dorsally, a depression is present ; such a depression, which is sometimes difficult to distinguish, is present in all the species considered in this work. The base of *aedoeagus* is provided with a sclerotized curved piece, about as long as *saccus* and whose distal part, forked, is connected to a ventral lobate projection of the *sacculus*.

Female genitalia. Unknown.

Distribution. Southern Spain, Sierra Nevada.

Biology. Unknown.

Those species are very similar in colour and general appearance but may be distinguished by the following key which is based upon the male genitalia :

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. <i>Sacculus</i> with horn-shaped projection | 2 |
| - <i>Sacculus</i> without such projection | 3 |
| 2. Ventral margin of <i>valvae</i> strongly convex | <i>szoecsi</i> Goz. |
| - Ventral margin of <i>valvae</i> weakly convex | <i>turcmeniella</i> Kuz. |

3. *Valva* strongly angulated at basal 1/3 ; *cucullus* symmetric ; tooth is present on basal 1/4 *incerta* n. sp.

- *Valva* almost straight ; *cucullus* asymmetric, tooth is present at about half length of the *valva* *atripalpella* WAHL.

On this occasion I wish to thank Dr. F. KASY (Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna), Dr. K. SATTler (British Museum, London), Dr. J. KLIMESCH (Linz) and Prof. A. VIGNA TAGLIANTI (Istituto di Zoologia dell'Università di Roma) for having allowed me to study their valuable collections.

References

- GOZMANY, L. A., 1952. New Middle-European Microlepidoptera. *Acta biol. Acad. Sci. Hung.*, 3 : 379-386.
- KUZNETZOV, V. I., 1956. Neue Tortriciden (*Lepidoptera*, *Tortricidae*) und Lithocolletoiden (*Lepidoptera*, *Lithocolletidae*) aus westlichen Kopet-Dagh. Turkmenien. *Ent. Obozr.*, XXXV, 2 : 447-461.
- KUZNETZOV, V. I., 1978. New species of Microlepidoptera (*Gracillariidae*, *Alucitidae*, *Pyralidae*) from Middle Asia. *Trudy Zool. Inst. Acad. Nauk USSR*, LXXI : 110-119.
- KUZNETZOV, V. I., 1979. New subgenera and species of moths (*Lepidoptera* : *Gelechiidae*, *Gracillariidae*) from Siberia and the Far East. *Trudy Zool. Inst. Acad. Nauk USSR*, LXXXI : 87-102.
- WAHLSTRÖM, S., 1979. *Parornix atripalpella* n. sp. from S. E. Sweden. *Ent. Scand.*, 10 : 139-141.

Summary

The Author considers four species belonging to the genus *Parornix* Spuler : *P. szoecsi* Gozmany, *P. amygdalella* Kuznetzov, *P. turcmeniella* Kuz., *P. atripalpella* Wahl. For each of them a description of the genitalia, the distribution and the biology, if known, are given. A new synonymy is ascertained : *P. amygdalella* Kuz. is a synonym of *P. szoecsi* Goz. In addition *P. incerta* n. sp. is described from Southern Spain.

Riassunto

L'Autore prende in esame quattro specie appartenenti al genere *Parornix* Spuler : *P. szoecsi* Goz., *P. amygdalella* Kuz., *P. turcmeniella* Kuz., *P. atripalpella* WAHL. Per ognuna di esse è data la descrizione delle armature genitali, la distribuzione e la biologia, dove essa è conosciuta. Viene accertata una nuova sinonimia : *P. amygdalella* Kuz. è sinonimo di *P. szoecsi* Goz. Inoltre, viene descritta *P. incerta* n. sp., proveniente dal sud della Spagna.